

Message Text

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PAGE 01 EC BRU 04475 201828Z

70

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAM-01

ACDA-05 TRSE-00 SAJ-01 AID-05 EB-07 CIEP-01 STR-04

OMB-01 CEA-01 COME-00 FRB-03 XMB-02 OPIC-03 LAB-04

SIL-01 /096 W

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R 201722Z MAY 75

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8900

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 682

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

USMISSION NATO

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, GR, TU

SUBJECT: GREECE-EC RELATIONS

REF: A. LUXEMBOURG 352 B. ATHENS 3691 C. ATHENS 3488

1. SUMMARY. GREECE IS PUSHING HARD FOR EARLY EC MEMBERSHIP BUT, ACCORDING TO A COMMISSION OFFICIAL, IS APT TO BE SOMEWHAT DISAPPOINTED IN ITS TIMETABLE. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO MISS NIELSEN, EC COMMISSION DIRECTORATE GENERAL FOR EXTERNAL RELATIONS, WHO ACCOMPANIED EC COMMISSION PRESIDENT ORTOLI TO ATHENS MAY 6-9, THE GREEKS PUSHED VERY HARD FOR EARLY MEMBERSHIP IN THE COMMUNITY. SHE SAID ORTOLI TRIED TO POINT OUT SOME OF THE OBSTACLES WHICH WOULD PREVENT VERY SPEEDY ACTION BUT HE SUCCEEDED ONLY IN GETTING PLANNING MINISTER PAPALIGOURAS TO CONCEDE, TOWARD THE END OF THE VISIT, THAT GREECE'S FORMAL APP-

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PAGE 02 EC BRU 04475 201828Z

LICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP MIGHT NOT BE MADE UNTIL AFTER THE SUMMER

RECESS.

3. MISS NIELSEN BELIEVES ONE REASON THE GREEKS PUSH SO HARD FOR EARLY ADMISSION IS THAT THEY GET ENCOURAGEMENT IN BILATERAL MEETINGS IN EC CAPITALS. YET COUNTRIES WHICH TELL THE GREEKS BILATERALLY THEY SUPPORT EARLY ADMISSION ARE NOT NEARLY SO COOPERATIVE BEHIND THE GREEKS' BACKS. (COMMENT: WE NOTE THAT THIS OBSERVATION IS SUPPORTED BY THE VARYING DESCRIPTIONS OF THE GERMAN POSITION IN REFTELS A AND B).

4. MISS NIELSEN'S VIEW OF THE GERMAN POSITION IS THAT NO MATTER WHAT THEY TELL CARAMANLIS IN BONN, THEY WILL DRAG THEIR FEET WHEN THE CHIPS ARE DOWN. THE GERMANS HAVE TWO MAJOR RESERVATIONS: THEY THINK IT WILL COST THEM TOO MUCH AND THEY DO NOT THINK YOU CAN MOVE ON GREECE WITHOUT ALSO MOVING ON TURKEY, WHICH IS CLEARLY OUT OF THE QUESTION ON ECONOMIC GROUNDS.

5. MISS NIELSEN CONFIRMED THAT THE GREEKS WERE ASKING FOR 400 MILLION UNITS OF ACCOUNT IN FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FROM THE COMMUNITY. OF THIS AMOUNT, 150 MILLION WOULD BE IN THE FORM OF A DIRECT GRANT FOR MODIFYING GREEK AGRICULTURE. THE OTHER 250 MILLION WOULD BE CHANNELED THROUGH THE EUROPEAN INVESTMENT BANK.

6. WHAT MISS NIELSEN ANTICIPATES IS THAT NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO FACE THE GREEKS AND GIVE THEM A FLAT NO BUT THERE ARE A MILLION WAYS TO SLOW THINGS DOWN AND THEY WILL ALL BE USED. SHE REGARDS AS HIGHLY UNREALISTIC THE CURRENT GREEK TIMETABLE WHICH CALLS FOR:

- A. GREEK FORMAL REQUESTS EITHER JUST BEFORE OR JUST AFTER THE SUMMER RECESS.
- B. NEGOTIATIONS COMPLETED BY THE END OF 1977.
- C. A FIVE-YEAR ADJUSTMENT PERIOD BEFORE ALL PROVISIONS WOULD BECOME APPLICABLE. GREENWALD

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